



# THE NORTHWEST NUTGROWER

## *Message from the Nut Growers Society President*

Dear NGS Members,

I hope this letter finds you healthy and thriving in these uncertain times. As I write this, I find myself thinking back to just a few months ago when I became president of the NGS. At that point it would have been unimaginable that I would be worried about my kids being able to go to school, concerned about visiting friends and family, or that Summer Tour wouldn't be able to take place. While the world seems to have changed so drastically, I find that my time spent in the orchard to be wonderfully normal. I am grateful for the rhythm of the typical tasks such as spraying, flailing, and even our annual battle with squirrels, gophers, and beavers. As we move through summer and towards harvest, some things will look different from the Nut Grower's Society as we adjust to a post COVID-19 world.



The NGS Summer Newsletter was included with the NGS Growers Handbook mailing and there are some new features to the handbook I wanted to introduce to you. We have a new look with a spiral binding to make the handbook more easily accessible and usable throughout the year. The handbook is larger with expanded ad participation, larger text font, and additional slides from Winter Meeting to enhance the speaker presentations and references for growers. Our hope is that the handbook will become a working document for our members. Use this as a reference in looking for services and supplies from sponsors and vendors, to efficiently refer to Winter Meeting and Summer Tour topic discussions, and for using the roster to reach out to fellow members for networking. We want to make this a tool for you.

Since Summer Tour has been cancelled due to the current COVID-19 issue, the NGS board has been discussing what can be done to reach out to members for current industry and orchard issues. In response to this, the NGS board has created a tentative monthly schedule of education sessions to record and send via email blast and to be posted to the web-page, "Growers Corner," for members to view. The current lineup includes Stewardship and the Importance of Grower Participation, Spray Techniques-Best Industry Practices, Fertigation/Nutrients, Pest Management with Nik Wiman, and Farm Succession Planning.

The Nut Growers Society's primary purpose is to share information with the growers as this is mainly done through Winter Meeting and Summer Tour. As everyone knows, this is no normal year and there remains uncertainty in the near future. With the Summer Tour cancelled, what will happen next year? The 2020 plans for Summer Tour will be rolled over to 2021 to have the orchard tour at Perrott Farms in Coburg and the trade show at the Lane County Fairgrounds.

We are looking forward to a Winter Meeting and, as of July, the NGS board is moving forward with planning but agree that it will look different as we adhere to state and county regulations going into 2021. As we get closer to the fall months, we will update members via Fall Newsletter and email communication. We do know that the crowd for Winter Meeting will have to be significantly less than our past events. We look forward to getting together the best way we can. If you have additional questions or concerns, please contact to Juli Jones at [juli@oregonhazelnuts.org](mailto:juli@oregonhazelnuts.org) or the Industry Office at 503-582-8420.

Kind Regards,  
Jason Perrott  
NGS President 2020





# *Hazelnut Marketing Board Marketing Order Operations*

Do you plan to become a hazelnut handler this fall?

Each year the Marketing Board is required to offer the following information to the entire industry. Many of you, especially new growers, may be embarking on new and varied methods of selling hazelnuts and hazelnut products. Below are the details of becoming a handler along with the responsibilities.

The Hazelnut Marketing Order became law in 1949 at the request of the Oregon and Washington hazelnut industry. The order provides for establishment of a board that consists of four handlers, five growers and a public member as well as alternates for each position. The order does not allow for the shipment of uninspected product or product that does not meet Oregon and US kernel or in-shell standards into a commercial channel of trade. Sales made from roadside stands or sales made directly to the person who will be consuming the nuts are exempt from the Marketing Order. However, it is very important to note that the handlers have agreed to voluntarily subject all products to a pasteurization step before going to a user. This is paramount to the longevity of the industry and those with roadside stands or farmer markets should follow suit.

Handlers assessments are \$12 per ton of product handled. This is used to ensure quality standards are met and to prepare industry statistics as well as engage in research, education and promotion activities. Anyone who puts any number of hazelnuts into any commercial channel of trade, including mail order, is considered by the Marketing Order to be a handler and is subject to all the Hazelnut Marketing Board's controls and regulations.

If you are putting hazelnuts into a channel of trade (whether nuts are from your farm or a number of farms), or if you are selling your own product mail order, you are likely a handler and need to call the office to discuss your options. Please call the office at 503-582-8420 or email [hazelnut@oregonhazelnuts.org](mailto:hazelnut@oregonhazelnuts.org) for more information.

## *Objective Yield Survey 2020*

The Objective Yield Survey, administered by USDA-NASS, will begin late July and end mid-August. Selected growers will be contacted by telephone to obtain permission to enter fields and confirm acreage and variety of selected orchard. Survey participation is encouraged in order to provide the Industry the most accurate crop data.

The estimates will be released on late August and details discussed at the August 27nd Hazelnut Marketing Board meeting. For more information, please contact Dave Losh (Oregon State Statistician, USDA-NASS) at 503-326-2136, email [dave.losh@nass.usda.gov](mailto:dave.losh@nass.usda.gov) or call Gene Pierce at 503-326-2133.

## *For Your Operation & Industry Become a Stewardship Participant!*



To enable reports that compare your practices to the practices employed by all others who are using this useful program, data needs to be entered asap. Simply go to [hazelnutstewardship.org](http://hazelnutstewardship.org) and enter your data for the 2019 crop. Informational zoom meetings hosted by Nik Wiman will be held Tuesdays, **August 11, 18 and 25 at 10 am**. Email [polly@oregonhazelnuts.org](mailto:polly@oregonhazelnuts.org) to sign up to receive a zoom request.

Our goal is to have 40,000 acres represented for the 2019 crop year. With that number of acres, we will have meaningful industry information that will enhance grower knowledge about good practices, help to keep regulators at bay and assist our handlers with sales of sustainably grown hazelnuts.



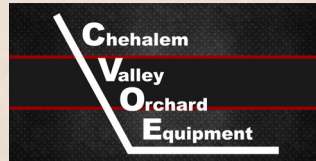
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# Industry Calendar



**August 27, 2020 at 9:00am**

Annual Meeting of the  
Hazelnut Marketing Board  
Zoom Video Conference

**September 8, 2020 at 9:00am**

Annual Meeting of the  
Oregon Hazelnut Commission  
Zoom Video Conference

**FOR INFORMATION ON HOW TO ACCESS ZOOM MEETINGS, CONTACT THE INDUSTRY OFFICE FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AT 503-582-8420.**

## Grower Resources

The Industry Office has begun to collect a variety of resources for growers. The webpage "Growers Corner" has a new tab titled Grower Resources for links to various resources ([www.oregonhazelnuts.org](http://www.oregonhazelnuts.org)). The Industry Office staff and the NGS Board of Directors will continue to "grow" this page with subjects that are important to YOU. We encourage your input and suggestions and we will do the leg work to make sure we are supplying you with the current research, resources as well as the historical information we have - don't reinvent the wheel! The Growers Resources section of the NGS newsletter will continue as a perminate section with highlighted subjects that are added to the webpage.

### LOCATED ON THE PAGE NOW

- Link to OSU Extension Catalog for access to Hazelnut Production articles
- NGS 2020 Winter Meeting Videos (11 each) covering each agenda item

### GOING FORWARD

- Scheduled videos in the next coming months to include Stewardship, Spray Techniques-Best Industry Practices, Fertigation/Nutrients, Pest Management with Nik Wiman, and Farm Succession Planning

## Welcome New Staff Member



**Rita Halpin**, Director of Finance, came to the Hazelnut Industry Office from the nonprofit and medical industry. Her background is in accounting and management. Rita is the organization's accountant for all four entities in the office and takes care of all financial transactions from membership to collecting funds for the Marketing Board and Hazelnut Commission. When not crunching numbers at the industry office, Rita is hiking with the latest addition to the Halpin family, Finn. Recently adopted from the Labrador Rescue in Josephine County, Finn is a Basset-Labrador mix with the sweet soul of a lab and the song of a hound. Rita is very excited to be a part of the growing hazelnut industry and is looking forward to meeting the members of the hazelnut community!